

Sunday - October 1, 1978

Sunday morning in Innsbruck Austria. Outside our hotel window, I saw a picturesque sight: a squirrel sitting in a walnut tree. At 8:00 a.m., we were sitting in the dining room enjoying a Continental breakfast with our tour group. We were disappointed to find that some had missed the program last night. Their money had been refunded.

The men again loaded the baggage on the motor coach and we left Innsbruck, a popular resort with approximately 30,000 people. It was raining again this morning. Tony said it was 165 kilometers to Salzburg and would take us about two and a half hours to get there. We crossed the bridge over Innes River. A sign read 146 kilometers to Munich. Every picturesque village along the way is either nestled at the foot of a hill or is situated high on a hill. Each has a spired church and most have a castle. We drove through Schwaz, Angath on the River Ellema, past the Castle Kuffstein, to Intal. Now we were traveling on German soil, beautiful meadows, grazing brown cows, each village with a white church spire towering above the homes. Paved roads leading to prosperous looking homes and barns. The rain clouds hanging low on the mountains pouring out a gentle drizzle, which enhanced the atmosphere. The homes have large overhanging roofs. We traveled on a bridge over a big river, Bad-Reinsdat. Before long, we reached the Austrian border and waited 25 minutes while Tony paid the toll. At 11:55 a.m., we were on our way again, traveling on a two-lane highway with thick bushes and trees on either side. We saw another beautiful castle high on a hill. It would have been great to have had a tour guide who could tell us about the country we were traveling through and point out some of the highlights. At 12:00 noon, we traveled to the famous City of Saltzburg, looking for the "Mozart Hotel", our next home away from home. We were welcomed by the proprietor, who spoke English. After the luggage was unloaded, we were assigned rooms and informed there would be a concert tonight at 8:00 p.m.